

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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3. (Twice amended) An apparatus for counting tickets comprising:

a housing;

a transport device coupled to the housing and capable of guiding at least one partially translucent ticket with an opaque pattern printed thereon into the housing [and tickets are printed with a pattern];

a light source positioned on a first side of the partially translucent ticket for passing light through said partially translucent ticket but not said opaque pattern;

a detector positioned on a [the] second side of the partially translucent ticket for receiving light passing through said partially translucent ticket from the light source, and for generating a signal based on the light passing through the translucent ticket; and

a [the] signal analyzer coupled to the detector to analyze [a] the signal provided by the detector and determine a ticket count based on said signal.

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